

SHOWCASING US ARTISTS AND FILMMAKERS
AT THE 12TH !F ISTANBUL INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The !f Istanbul International Independent Film Festival celebrates its 12th year from February 14 – March 03, 2013, as the region's pioneering festival dedicated to cutting edge contemporary cinema and using films to build bridges and find common ground. The festival is attended annually by 70,000 people in Istanbul, Ankara and in Izmir. Its ethos is to celebrate activism through art.

In addition, five festival films are shown simultaneously as Istanbul in 30 cities across Anatolia as well as Ramallah and Beirut as part of the festival's pioneering !f Live digital film distribution network. The idea is to use digital technology to expand festival audiences by engaging with local partners in each city, many of which lack access to art house film content.

**RICHARD PENA / Program Director of New York Film Festival / !f Inspired
Jury Member**



As the program director of the Film Society of Lincoln Center (organizers of the New York Film Festival and the New Directors/New Films series) and a Professor of Professional Practice at the School of Arts at Columbia University, Richard Pena has upheld the organisation's gold standard for showcasing the best in world cinema, while dramatically expanding its – and in turn, the audience's horizons.

From 2001 to 2002, Peña was the host on the Sundance Channel's "Conversations in World Cinema.. Since 1996, he has organized together with Unifrance Film the annual "Rendez-Vous with French Cinema Today" program. He is also responsible for creating the annual New York Jewish Film Festival.

Richard Pena's attendance of to !f Istanbul as a jury member will greatly enhance the soul of the Festival.

Small Conversations

!f launches Small Conversations in 2013, aiming to create a cozy and sincere atmosphere to put ideas together as to create a new perspective.

Jose Riviera / Small Conversations

José Rivera, the first Puerto Rican screenwriter to be nominated for an Oscar will be one of the guests of Small Conversations.

Riviera is the scriptwriter of ON THE ROAD, adapted from Jack Kerouac's novel which was believed to be impossible to make a film from. ON THE ROAD is also a part of !f Istanbul's line up and will be screened in "Galas" section.

In January 2005, Rivera became the first Puerto Rican to be nominated by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for "Best Adapted Screenplay" for "The Motorcycle Diaries". His screenplay won awards from the Cinema Writers Circle (Spain) and from the Argentine Film Critics Association; it was also nominated for awards by the American Screenwriters Association, the Chlotrudis Awards, the Online Film Critics Society, and the Writers Guild of America.



Spotlight on Screenwriting with the Sundance

Founded by Robert Redford, the Sundance Institute is recognized around the world for its commitment to developing independent cinema. The Sundance Screenwriters Lab is a key pillar of this vision: a five-day writer's workshop that gives independent screenwriters the opportunity to work intensively on their feature film scripts with the support of established writers in an environment that encourages innovation and creative risk-taking. The many talented graduates of the program include Cary Fukunaga, Cherien Dabis, Ryan Fleck and Anna Boden, Darren Aronofsky, David Gordon Green, Shirin Neshat and Paul Thomas Anderson.

This year the Lab will be realized in May, but will start during If Istanbul with the screening of NOBODY WALKS, whose script was developed in Sundance Lab. The film was a big success in independent film festival circuit and will be screened with the attendance of director **Ry Russo Young**. The Sundance Lab Case Study Event will be presented at Salt Beyoglu. She will share her experiences during the lab, with a Sundance advisor.

Shannon Plumb / Dir. Towheads – If Inspired Competition Film

If Inspired, aiming to bring together first and second time directors will host Shannon Plumb, whose cinematic studies of life's various roles and characters explore the complexities embedded in the ordinary and extraordinary. From the humble persona of a new mother to iconic figures from the silver screen, Plumb portrays these characters with zest and humor. Inspired by the curious spirit of slapstick comedy and the physical humor of silent film legends such as Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin, Plumb employs a low-fi aesthetic by using Super-8 film, stationary camera shots, long takes and hand-made props and costumes. Towheads is a modern-day tale of motherhood as told through the eyes of a Brooklyn mom with two towheaded blonde boys. The film explores what it means to be a mother in current times, caught between her responsibility to her children

WE ARE LEGION: The story of ANONYMOUS / Small Conversations

Brian Knappenberger has directed one of the smartest documentaries; ***We Are Legion***, the story of **Anonymous** the radical "hacktivist" collective that has redefined civil disobedience for the digital age.

The film explores the historical roots of early hacktivist groups like Cult of the Dead Cow and Electronic Disturbance Theater and then follows Anonymous from 4chan to a full-blown movement with a global reach, one of the most transformative of our time. The film is structured to explain the early days of computer intrusion, and how the hacking community formed.

One of the things that ***We Are Legion*** does so well is to convey as much as it can about the mindset of people who do this sort of stuff. We're talking about educated men and women, but ones who enjoy playing pranks and don't mind sharing in a crass/bizarre sense of humor. They are moral people who don't mind exerting their power – but with a purpose.

Brian Knappenberger, the director and producer of the film will be in Istanbul for a "small conversation" session to discuss civil disobedience.



!f MUSIC

!f Music has been the heart and soul of !f Istanbul from the day it has started. And this year, it will be one of the most entertaining and appreciated part of the Festival with its enriched film and party program.

!f Music will start with an Opening Party, a week before the Festival, on 9th of February with the attendance of Nancy Whang and Pat Mahoney!

!f Music Opening Party / LCD Soundsystem / SHUT UP AND PLAY THE HITS

!f Music will start with the screening of SHUT UP AND PLAY THE HITS, based on the final show of LCD Soundsystem on April 2nd, 2011 at Madison Square Garden. LCD frontman James Murphy had made the conscious decision to disband one of the most celebrated and influential bands of its generation at the peak of its popularity, ensuring that the band would go out on top with the biggest and most ambitious concert of its career. The instantly sold out, near four-hour extravaganza did just that, moving the thousands in attendance to tears of joy and grief, with New York Magazine calling the event "a marvel of pure craft" and TIME magazine lamenting "we may never dance again." Nancy Whang and Pat Mahoney, who are an essential part of the performance will be in Istanbul for the Opening Party!

Nancy Whang



Nancy Whang is among the few who can lay claim to being a key figure in the heady early days of the rise of DFA Records, and her DJ sets remain faithful to the post-punk party aesthetic upon which DFA was founded. Nancy's contributions on early 12"s by LCD Soundsystem and The Juan MacLean quickly lead to her full-time involvement as a permanent member in each of those bands. Shortly after, guest appearances on Soulwax's seminal track 'E Talking' and Munk's 'Kick Out The Chairs' solidified her place as a highly sought after vocalist in the burgeoning alternative dance music scene. Among other artists, she was featured on Shit Robot's latest album *From the Cradle to the Rave* in 2010

Pat Mahoney

LCD Soundsystem drummer Pat Mahoney can disco. He proved that on *FabricLive.36*, the 2007 mix CD he assembled alongside his bandmate James Murphy, taking in not only Peech Boys, Chic, and Was (Not Was), but also Junior Bryon and Peter Gordon and Love of Life Orchestra (probably confounding a few DFA fans in the process — but then again, that was the year that LCD brought out their own *Confuse the Marketplace* EP, so perhaps that was part of the plan).

But it's funny: I remember watching Mahoney drumming with Les Savy Fav at grotty warehouse spaces in downtown Providence back in the mid 1990s — the kind of frenzied, communal punk-rock gatherings that really do make you want to shout, "I was there!" (I guess I just did.) I never would have suspected that a decade and a half later, I'd be sitting at my computer listening to Mahoney play a DJ set of Balearic house, recorded in a friend's living room as a promo for Australia's Future Music festival. Providence felt small, but the world just keeps getting smaller. In this case, in a good way: Mahoney's mix is just as sweaty and urgent as his old band's shows were, even if he's slowed the tempo and swapped punk rock for tropical disco.

Party DJ's / Rainbow Party

Kim Ann Foxman



Kim Ann Foxman will be in Istanbul for !f Istanbul Rainbow Party on 22nd of February. After collaborating with Hercules and Love Affair for two albums, she decided to part ways to choose her own musical adventure. For the past few years Kim Ann Foxman has been brewing a club cult following across the globe; crisscrossing everywhere from Japan to Cologne and Chicago she's established herself as one of the most sought after DJs and artists on the house scene.

Noel Gonzales (Nomi Ruiz)

Nomi Ruiz is an American Nu-disco and Hip hop singer from New York City who is most famous for being among the cast of vocalists that contributed to Hercules and Love Affair's debut album. Ruiz has also collaborated with dance music trio The Ones. She is currently a member of the Brooklyn-based trio Jessica 6. She will join us at !f for the q& a of Turning, and will make a surprise appearance at the Rainbow Party.

Joshua Oppenheimer / Dir. The Act of Killing / !f inspired + !f Live

Act of Killing, one of the most popular and shocking films of the year, is a documentary about the Indonesian death squads of the mid-1960s who tortured and killed communists. Errol Morris and Werner Herzog are the Executive Producers of this chilling and inventive documentary, during which the Indonesian death squads are challenged to re-enact some of their many murders in the style of the American movies they love. Act of Killing will be discussed in the upcoming years with the way it bares violence and power.



Travis Matthews / Dir. Interior. Leather Bar

Interior. Leather Bar is Travis Matthew's most recent film. Starring James Franco, the film recreates the 40 minutes of footage excised from William Friedkin's 'Cruising.' William Friedkin had to cut 40 minutes of footage from his 1980 film 'Cruising,' starring Al Pacino as a cop who goes undercover in the underground gay culture of New York City to catch a serial killer with a proclivity for S&M who is murdering gay men.

The footage that was cut involved gay S&M, obviously, and Friedkin had to let it go in order to avoid the dreaded X rating from the MPAA.

James Franco and his filmmaker friend Travis Matthews used this idea as inspiration to create 'Interior. Leather Bar,' which imagines what that 40 minutes of cut footage might have been.

Travis Matthews will attend !f Istanbul to present "Interior Leather Bar".